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March 2020 Edition

March Meeting Minutes

Jeremy Mooney, KC0LDI, called the meeting to order on March 7 at 1:05 PM. 18 were in attendance.

- The February 2020 Minutes were approved.
- Paul Bushouse, N0TYE, reports there is \$2112.70 in the club account. March is the traditional dues month. Several were paid today. Dues can be mailed to Paul or brought to a meeting.

Paul mentioned that room rent at the Minnetonka Community Center has gone up considerably. Members were asked to think about possible changes in time and/or location to discuss later in the year.

Old Business:

The April Build-A-Thon was discussed. Since Russ Ramirez, K0WFS, has incurred unexpected work obligations he isn't able to finish the possible projects he was working on. Consequently members who attend will be bringing a project of their choosing.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Show and Tell:

Dave Fisk, N0MK, brought in "The Plumbers' Nightmare", AKA "The Still", a retro build of a 1929 era transmitter. It is built on a plywood base with lots of copper tube and brass thumbscrews. Jim asked that a picture not be taken since it is still in a very incomplete state.

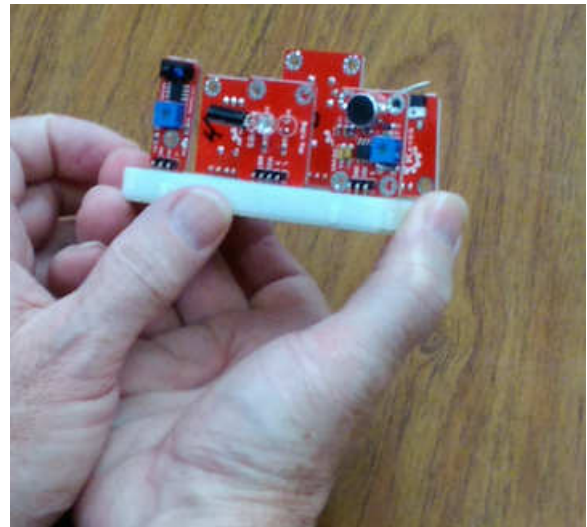
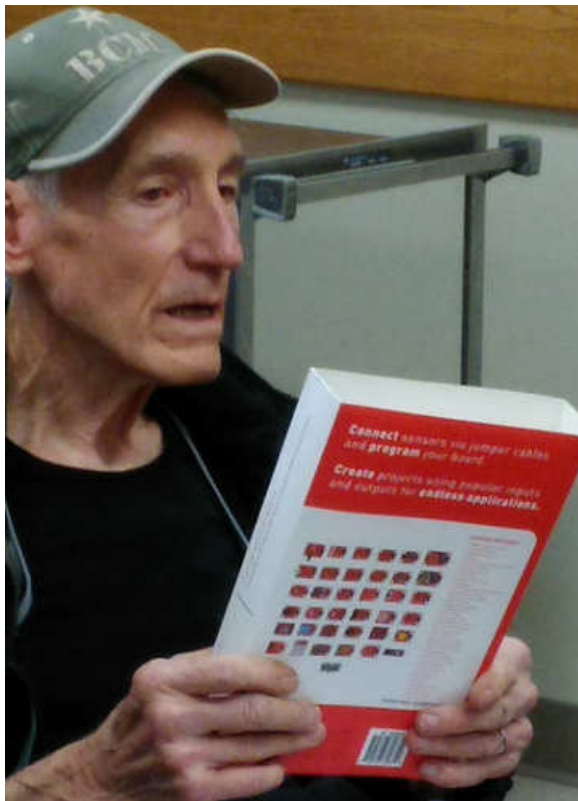
Eric Osterberg, N0NKI, brought in a NanoVNA designed by BH5HNU and purchased from Alibaba.com. It covers 50 KHz to 1.5GHz.



John Krawczak, KJ0P, brought a miniature crossbow he hopes will be useful for pulling antennas into tall trees.



John also found a kit of 37 sensors suitable for use with arduinos and other controllers for less than \$1 per sensor at Alibaba.com. Each of the sensors is on a card that can be wired into the controller. There is no data on the sensors in the kit but the information is available on-line either at Keyes Technology or by searching the web.



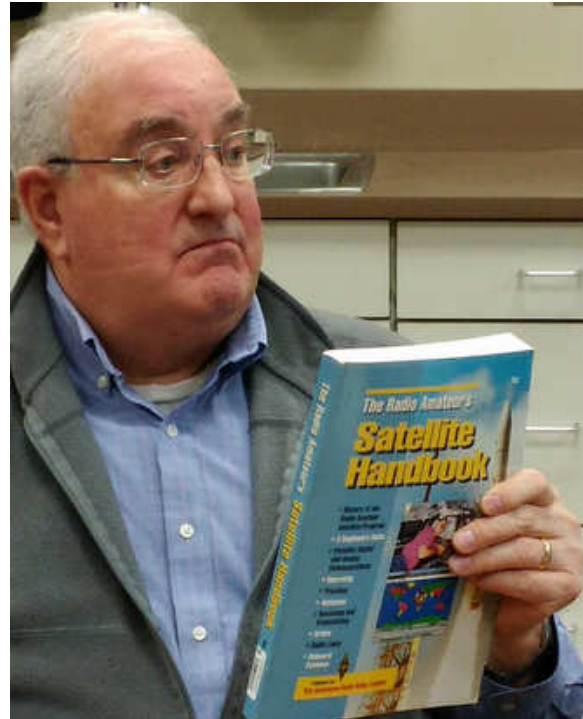
Craig Siegenthaler, W0BGO, brought in a medium wave loop antenna he had been building commercially in the 1990s. He described the antenna properties and described some of the process of building them.



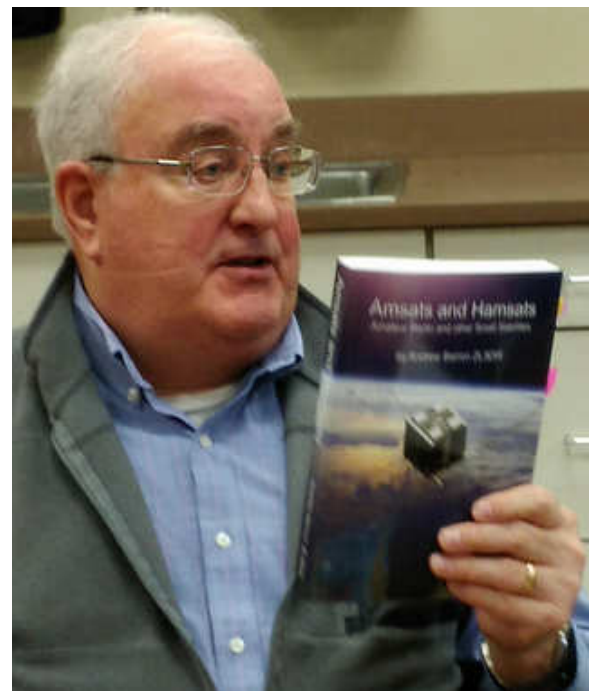
Steve Ulrich, NW0C, brought in a circuit board he obtained from Far Circuits (<https://www.farcircuits.net/>). The board was a circuit to use as part of the Citizen Science project for using low frequency (20-24 KHz) submarine transmissions to study the ionosphere and solar disturbances. The board uses parts that are readily available if not already in your junk box.



Steve also brought in two books. One was the ARRL “Satellite Handbook” which is largely outdated but does have some good information on satellite antennas.



The second book was “Amsats and Hamsats” by Andrew Barron and has more up to date information on small and amateur satellites.



Mert Nellis, W0UFO, brought in a Phaser digital mode transceiver from Midnight Design Solutions (<https://midnightdesignsolutions.com/phaser/>) he built recently. He's been using it and reports it works well.



January Presentation

Steve Ulrich, NW0C, gave a presentation on the history of satellites, including amateur satellites.

Club Officers:

President: Russ Ramirez/K0WFS
Vice Pres: Jeremy Mooney/KC0LDI
Secretary: Bede Willenbring/WA0QNV
Treasurer: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE
At Large: Bob Liesenfeld/WB0POQ

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